

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 26, 2008. In this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended, claims 2-9 are pending, and claims 10 and 11 have been allowed. This Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the application.

Applicants thank Examiners Grun and Tucker for the telephone interview conducted on December 4, 2008. During that interview, the rejection of claims 1-9 was discussed. An initial agreement was reached that the addition of the phrase "other than liquid tensile forces" to claim 1 would overcome the outstanding rejection.

Applicants now amend claim 1 as discussed during the interview and submit that no new matter is added to amended claim 1. The specification as filed describes the liquid tensile forces acting on the fabric tube in the capillary membrane at, for example, paragraph 11.


Conclusion

In conclusion, all of the claims remaining in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request the allowance of all pending claims. If there are any remaining questions, the Examiners are requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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